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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/720,944

11/24/2003

Craig L. Reding

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VERIZON

PATENT MANAGEMENT GROUP

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EXAMINER

ADDY, THJUAN KNOWLIN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/24/2008

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patents@VERIZON.COM

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/720,944	Applicant(s) REDING ET AL.	
	Examiner THJUAN K. ADDY	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/20/2004; 02/08/2006; 06/14/2007; 10/23/2007; 01/16/2008</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Frey et al. (US 6,535,596).
2. In regards to claims 1, 12, 23, and 34, Frey discloses a method and system for managing a communications line associated with a plurality of users of a communications network, comprising: receiving first user line management information (e.g., preferences) specifying handling of calls directed to the communications line from a contact in a first address book (e.g., list of directory numbers provided by selective call forwarding (SCF) and selective call rejection), the first address book associated with the first user (See Fig. 1 and called party 110); receiving second user line management information (e.g., preferences) specifying handling of calls to the communications line from a contact in a second address book (e.g., list of directory numbers provided by selective call forwarding (SCF) and selective call rejection), the second address book associated with the second user (See Fig. 1 and calling party 105); receiving from the

communications network information regarding a call directed to the communications line; determining a handling procedure for the call based on the received first and second user line management information; and transmitting to the communications network instructions regarding the determined handling procedure, such that the communications network handles the call in accordance with the determined handling procedure (See Abstract, col. 1-2 lines 63-22, and col. 11 lines 15-29).

3. In regards to claims 2, 13, and 24, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving from the communications network information regarding a call received on the communications line includes receiving information from a service control point providing services to a switch associated with the communications line (See col. 4 lines 12-27).

4. In regards to claims 3, 14, and 25, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving from the communications network information regarding a call includes receiving information identifying an origination of the call; and wherein determining a handling procedure includes determining a handling procedure based on the information identifying the origination of the call (See col. 7-8 lines 59-9 and col. 10 lines 14-19).

5. In regards to claims 4, 15, and 26, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding forwarding calls to a different communications line (See col. 10 lines 4-10 and col. 10 lines 20-31).

6. In regards to claims 5, 16, and 27, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein

receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding handling calls based on the time the call is received (See col. 10 lines 14-16).

7. In regards to claims 6, 17, and 28, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding forwarding calls to one or more processors providing voice mail services (See col. 8 lines 58-64).

8. In regards to claims 7, 18, and 29, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding forwarding calls to at least one processor for playing an audible signal indicating unavailability of the communications line (See col. 9 lines 30-41).

9. In regards to claims 8, 19, and 30, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving first user line management information includes receiving a request to forward a notification regarding a call to a first device associated with the first user (See col. 9 lines 30-41).

10. In regards to claims 9, 20, and 31, Frey discloses the method and system, further comprising: receiving, in response to the notification, an instruction regarding handling of the call; and wherein the determined handling procedure is based on the received instruction (See col. 9 lines 30-41).

11. In regards to claims 10, 21, and 32, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding a first handling procedure, information regarding a secondary handling procedure, and information useful for determining whether to apply the primary or secondary handling

procedure; and wherein determining a handling procedure of the call includes determining whether to handle the call using the primary or secondary handling procedure (See col. 10 lines 4-19).

12. In regards to claims 11, 22, and 33, Frey discloses the method and system, wherein the receiving line management information includes receiving information regarding handling of calls based upon information regarding a location of the first or second user (See col. 10 lines 14-17).

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wittenkamp (US Patent Application, Pub. No.: US 2002/0082028 A1) teaches paging and selective call routing in a telecommunication environment.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to THJUAN K. ADDY whose telephone number is (571)272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

15. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

16. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thjuan K. Addy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614